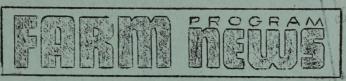
New Mexico

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION

5/2/47 No. 240

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8. DEPARTMENT OF ASHIOULTURE

FARMERS SET EXAMPLE

USDA HEAD FOINTS OUT - Farmers are following the kind of production pattern needed

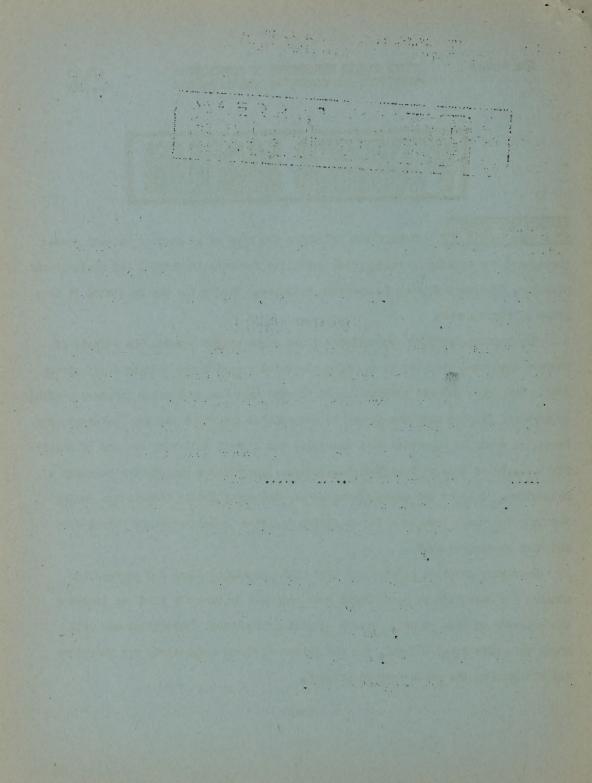
throughout our economy to bring price stability for both industrial and agricultural

products, Secretary Clinton P. Anderson believes. Here's the way he stated it to a

group of businessmen.

"By maintaining food production a third above prewar levels, the efforts of farmers have been directed at assuring plentiful supplies and holding food prices down. The price support program helped to make this big production increase possible by assuring farmers that the prices of commodities for which wartime increases were requested would be supported when necessary for 2 years following the end of hostilities....Price support legislation....has.....provided a program for consumer protection. Most of the expenditures of the Commodity Credit Corporation during the last few years have been for subsidies designed to hold consumer prices down and keep production up."

Secretary Anderson pointed out that high purchasing power and unsatisfied demands for manufactured goods leave more consumer dollars for food and increase the pressure on food prices. Prices of most agricultural commodities are well above the price support level, and the prices of these commodities are therefore not affected by the price-support program.



LONG RANGE FARM PROGRAM

OUTLINED BY ANDERSON - Testifying before the House Committee on Agriculture regarding long-range agricultural policy and programs, Secretary Clinton P. Anderson outlined what he believes to be the one practical policy for American agriculture, "a policy of organized, sustained, and realistic abundance.....an opportunity to establish and maintain a balance between consumption and the sound capacity output of our agricultural plant."

Broad requirements outlined by Secretary Anderson for such a program included:

- 1. Keeping our agriculture geared to developments in other segments of the economy, to the end that a high level of income and employment is maintained.
- 2. Helping maintain stability of prices at levels fair to both producers and consumers, through a long-range system of commodity price floors, modernization of the parity formula, and reduced costs of production.
- 3. An over-all land program to make sure we conserve and improve our agricultural resources.
- 4. Measures having to do with the welfare and rights of farm people good prices and income, public services and facilities, improved employment opportunities and tenure in short, the right of equal opportunity.
- 5. The learning and application of more and more knowledge intensified research in biological sciences; research and service programs in marketing and distribution, in production technology, and in efforts to expand industrial uses of farm products.
- 6. A floor under consumption of farm products a surplus distribution program or perhaps some sort of food allotment program available at all times, flexible enough to meet both chronic and acute difficulties. (Cont'd page 3)

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- 7. Action on the farm front to stabilize supplies from year to year and to meet changes in demand guideposts to indicate specific needs for production, acreage allotments and marketing quotas for the more difficult problems of shifting production, the ever-normal granary storage loans and marketing agreements to foster orderly marketing, special marketing programs in which food trades cooperate to move seasonal surpluses, international trade arrangement providing storage stocks and sales of excess supplies to needy countries at special prices.
- 8. Farm business aids and safeguards ample credit for farm and forest operators and their cooperatives, on suitable terms, sound development and use of cooperatives by farmers, extension of electric power to new areas, sound crop insurance.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

SCHOOL PROGRAM TESTS

NEW OUTLET FOR MIIK - Promise of getting health-building milk to thousands of youngsters who have had practically no milk since they left the cradle is seen in a test program on powdered milk being conducted in a few areas in connection with School Lunch Programs.

Under this program, non-fat dry milk solids — powdered milk to most of us — are shipped from heavy dairy production areas for use in schools of deficit areas. The dry milk is reconstituted with water into liquid form right at the school, shortly before serving, and in general is being received very well by the children. If the project works out as well as expected, it can furnish an additional outlet for farm production and at the same time contribute greatly to the health of the Nation's growing children. The dry milk would go to consumers who now get no milk at all and should not interfere at all with established fluid milk marketing.

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 RANGE MANAGEMENT

PAYS OFF IN CASH - How range management pays was demonstrated at the Central Plains Experimental Range, Fort Collins, Colorado. Stockmen cooperated with the management to show how conservative stocking, along with other good management practices, means improved livestock and added income for the farmer.

Not only did the range, conservatively stocked, show an improved condition, with better forage, but higher weight gains per acre were registered for livestock. In the period chosen, May 10 to November 10, long yearlings showed gains averaging 325 pounds per head. On similar ranges, heavily stocked, the yearlings registered only 190 to 250 pounds per head. In addition, the yearlings with higher gains command a premium of 50¢ to \$1.00 on the market.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

NEW HAMPSHIRE GROUPS

STRESS CONSERVATION - National importance of conserving our soil will be emphasized

by New Hampshire this spring with contests, meetings, and round tables, climaxing

in a "Conservation Week" observance, June 1-7. Civic clubs, farm organizations,

churches, and State, county and federal government agencies are cooperating in the

program of stressing the close tie between good soils and good health.

"We're hoping this observance — as well as similar ones which have been held in a few other States — will help to show in a dramatic way that how well the soil feeds us depends very much upon how well we feed the soil," says Dave Davidson, PMA's Assistant Administrator for Production. "I hope that similar events can be held in many States next year," he added. "In fact, I think it would be a good idea for citizens in all 48 States to get together and work up a National Conservation Week to stress the importance of conservation to good nutrition and better health."

Thousands of posters will be displayed by New Hampshire merchants and business firms will devote advertising space to the program. Public meetings are being held and committees set up in all counties, pointing to the activities during Conservation Week.

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## FARM NEWS SHORTS

Present prospects are that the supply of four major feed grains in 1947 will be within 3 percent of last year's, and that the supply of oil meal feeds will be greater.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

Export allocations of fats and oils for the second quarter of 1947 have been kept low because stocks available for consumption in the United States are expected to continue short during the next 6 months. The total 89.3 million pounds allocated for export compares with 236.1 million pounds allocated for the second quarter of 1946.

Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson says that today more people than ever realize that the prosperity of all countries depends in large degree upon international trade.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

U. S. exports of flue-cured tobacco in 1946 were the largest ever recorded

--- 68 percent more than the 1934-38 average and 41 percent above the 1927-31 average.

Close to 10 million bushels of the 1946 potato crop will be shipped abroad under the Department of Agriculture's potato export program chiefly to Germany, Belgium, France, Italy, Portugal and Spain. Over half this amount was purchased for the Army for seed use in Germany.

The 1946 cotton crop for the U. S. was the smallest since 1896 except for 1941. It amounted to only 8,640,000 bales.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION

5/9/47 No. 241

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ACP PROGRAM IMPORTANT

TO NATION'S HEALTH - The close tie between the Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP) and the Nation's health is emphasized by Dave Davidson, Assistant Administrator for Production, PMA. It is only in recent years, he explains, that we have really come to understand that how well the soil feeds us depends a lot upon how well we feed the soil.

"We have been prone," he says, "to look upon conservation practices as a kind of support which we can employ to raise production. But it does not necessarily follow that increased production of food means better food, pound for pound. In carrying out soil-building practices across the Nation, we must turn increasing attention to those which improve the quality as well as the quantity of our food.

"This is a 'must' for continued national health, especially in view of the fact that we haven't yet halted soil loss and deterioration."

Davidson points out that the Agricultural Conservation Program is probably the most important of all links between the farmer and the consumer.

"It is our most important job," he declares, "because every dollar that farmers and Uncle Sam spend on conservation represents an investment in the health and welfare of everybody — on the farm or in the city."

Importance of the soil to health is borne out by many experiments which show that there can be two or three hundred percent difference in the nutritive value of the same kinds and amounts of food grown on different soils.

"It is theoretically possible," Davidson says, "that two children could sit down at the table and eat two meals which were prepared the same, and look just alike, and yet one of them could be getting two or three times as much food value out of his meal."

(MORE)



RYEGRASS SEED

AVAILABLE NOW - "Farmers who want ryegrass seed for winter pasture and cover crops should be able to get a supply for early planting this year", says C. V. Hemphill, State Chairman of the Production and Marketing Administration Committee.

"The Government has made about 18 million pounds of the seeds available for sale which gives dealers a chance to start right away laying in supplies for distribution to farmers. The seed is offered in carload lots (60,000 pounds minimum) of 100-pound bags at \$8.10 per bag for top grade seed, f.o.b. the Pacific Northwest for delivery at one point. This is the earliest date ryegrass seed has been offered in recent years for fall planting."

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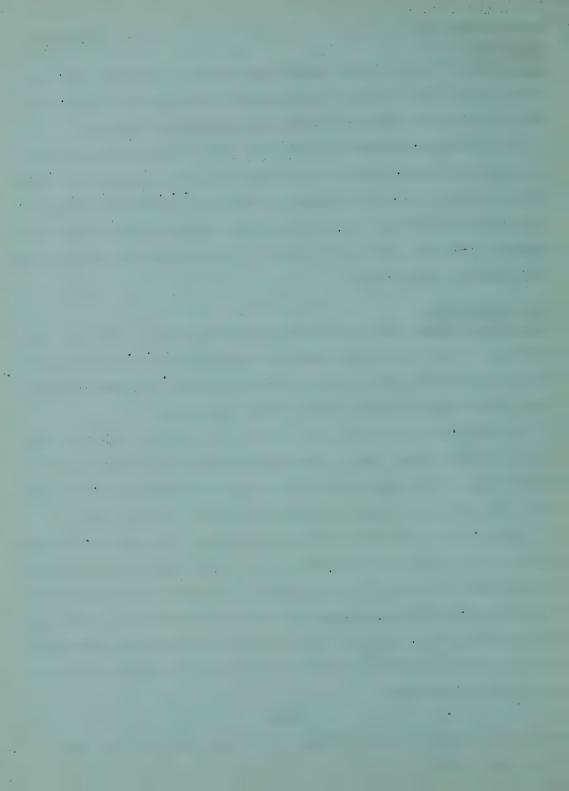
MORE RESEARCH NEEDED ON MARKETING PROBLEMS - With the Nation's farms producing about a third more than before the war there is a pressing demand for stepping up the research needed for meeting the marketing problems which this speed-up creates, E. A. Meyer, Administrator of the Research and Marketing Act of 1946 points out.

He illustrates his point this way: "Today we have American agriculture operating at high speed, going down the straightway at 60 miles per hour and around curves at forty. Now no experienced driver has to be told that a different problem arises when you have a blowout at 20 miles per hour and a blowout at 60."

Speaking of the possibilities of the Act Meyer says: "It cannot work miracles but it can bring science more powerfully to bear on agricultural problems. The Act is very broad. It provides for the development of new uses, and the improvement of marketing facilities and services. It provides for research not only into long range problems, but into such short range questions as the immediate improvements that can be made, for example, in grading and processing farm products, and in the whole field of marketing."

(MORE)

DID YOU KNOW? THAT it takes one hundred years to build one inch of top soil, on one acre of land.



LAND PRICE TREND

CALLS FOR CAUTION - Prospective land buyers need to be increasingly cautious and avoid debts that may turn out to be too burdensome to carry, the Department of Agriculture warns. The further sharp increases in land values during the last 4 months, along with the great number of transfers, reflect the continued operation of strong inflationary forces in the farm land market.

Apparently, many buyers are paying all cash for the farms they purchase, and others are making substantial down payments. Compared with the previous year, commercial banks furnished more credit to finance farm purchases during 1946 and Federal lending agencies less. Farmers are buying most of the tracts being sold, and more of the non-farm buyers are indicating an intention of operating rather than renting the farms they purchase.

Despite further rises in prices of farm real estate, farm sales continued high during 1946. For the country as a whole, prices rose 12 percent, bringing average market values to a point 92 percent above the 1935-39 average.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR 1947 TUNKEYS - To assure turkey producers of price support throughout the normal marketing season, the Department of Agriculture has announced a support program for 1947-crop turkeys marketed during the period October 1947 through January 1948. Support prices will be announced about October 1 and will reflect a national average price of 90 percent of the September 15 parity price. The Government's pricesupport program may prove unnecessary with fewer turkeys being raised, but the Department will be prepared, if necessary, to buy dressed turkeys from processors who cortify that they have paid all producers not less than the support prices.

(MORE)

DID YOU KNOW? THAT the average farmer could expect to be able to build more than one fourth inch on an acre of land if he lived to a ripe old age and practiced good farming methods all his life.



COL. HARRISON OF N.M.

CIVEN NEW USDA POST - Secretary of Agriculture Clinton F. Anderson has named Col.

R. L. Harrison of New Mexico to a new post as Special Assistant to the Secretary.

Col. Harrison will undertake any necessary surveys and analyses of the food situation in various areas of the world now partly dependent on food imports from the United States. He was transferred from the position of Assistant Administrator for Fiscal and Inventory Control of the Production and Marketing Administration to his new position.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

SMALL COTTON CROP PRODUCED IN 1946 - Last year's cotton crop amounted to 8,640,000 bales, the smallest since 1896 except for 1921, when production totaled only 7,945,000 bales. This compares with the 1935-44 average of 12,553,000 bales, and 1937's record crop of 18,946,000 bales. Marvested acreage of 17,615,000 acres was the smallest since 1884, except in 1945. Value of the 1946 crop of lint cotton, however, was the highest since 1925, amounting to \$1,409,711,000. The average of 32.6 cents per pound received for cotton sold before April 1 is 19.0 cents above the 10-year average.

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USE OF SOIL SURVEYS
INCREASING IN U. S. - "Nearly the whole body of knowledge that we have come to
know as modern soil science was developed during the past 50 years," according to
Dr. Charles E. Kellogg, head of USDA's Soil Survey.

Dr. Kellogg reports that roughly one-half of the arable land in the United States has been covered by detailed soil surveys and that most of the rest of the country has been covered by reconnaisance surveys and that in the past 15 years in the U. S. the public use of soil surveys has increased enormously.

(MORE)

DID YOU KNOW? THAT a large percentage of this land has been in cultivation over a period of years, mostly in row crops, with very little thought of protecting it from erosion.

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U.S. WHEAT STOCKS

LOWEST SINCE 1937 - The Nation had about 310 million bushels of wheat stored in all positions, on and off farms, on April 1, says the Department of Agriculture. About 140 million bushels of this remained on farms. Total stocks are about 7 percent smaller than a year ago, and the smallest for the date since 1937, when recurring droughts reduced stocks to the record low of 211 million bushels. About 946 million bushels of the 1,256 million stored have disappeared since last July, a disappearance second only to the previous year's 1,055 million bushels. Much less wheat has been fed than in other recent years, but exports and millings have been very high.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

SOIL WASTE

IS CRIMINAL - In a letter to the Minneapolis Tribune of April 27, the Reverend

John Pawelski of Taunton, Minnesota, says: "Robbing the soil of its fertility

is a major crime. Soil conservation is a direct challenge to rural pastors, editors,

farmers, county agents, and soil conservationists....The great task of conserving

the soil, which should concern every community and the Nation, has only begun.

Don't kill the soil, but keep it alive and fertile by adopting sound soil—and

water—conservation practices. Only 20 percent of the problems of soil conservation

are technical, the remaining 80 percent are social and economic."

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## FARM NEWS SHORTS

Farm production from meat animals in 1946 fell below the 40-million-lb. mark for the first time in four years, but gross income from meat animals was the highest in history, nearly eight billion dollars.

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Prices of meat and meat-animals in general are somewhat higher than normally would be expected in relation to such factors as consumer spending power, meat production, and meat exports.

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## FARM NEWS SHORTS

Experiments at the Southern Great Plains Field Station show that the use of cool-weather grasses to provide green winter pastures can add greatly to the forage resources of the Southern Great Plains Region. Officials said that the tests showed that abandoned farm land, or sub-marginal crop land reseeded to good perennial grasses will produce grass crops equal to or more valuable than the adjacent native range.

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Under the Research and Marketing Act it is made perfectly clear that marketing goes all the way from the farm to the kitchen, E. A. Meyer, administrator of the Act, points out.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

Farmers in mid-March were receiving the highest March prices for eggs and chickens since 1920 and wholesale prices of all poultry products have increased since that time.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

Even with all of the spectacular expansion of winter cover crop seed production, there is still only enough seed grown to plant one acre out of four that should be sown to a cover crop each year.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

Prices paid by farmers for things they buy averaged slightly higher on April 15 than on March 15, pushing parity prices up a little further.

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Iess grain was fed to livestock from October through March than during the same months of recent years, but domestic non-feed uses and exports were much larger than usual.

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The combined stocks of corn, oats, and barley in all positions on April 1 were 16 percent larger than a year earlier and about the same as average. Farm stocks per grain-consuming animal unit were about one-fourth larger than a year earlier and the second largest on record.



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ACP PRACTICES PROTECT
YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN - An average of about \$2 per person a year for insurance
against a shortage of food.....That's how the Agricultural Conservation Program
(ACP) adds up for the consumer, according to Dave Davidson, Assistant Administrator
for Production, PMA.

"The Agricultural Conservation Program costs each person in the Nation an average of some \$2 yearly," he says, "but it's impossible to arrive at the tremendous profit realized on this investment because taking care of the soil amounts to taking care of life itself — and who can estimate the worth of life? But, just for a sample, let's take the spreading of lime and phosphate....Calcium provided by lime, along with phosphate builds good bones, and strong teeth. Men, and animals, too, must have calcium to stay alive. If there isn't enough available calcium in the soil, we won't get enough from the food grown there. And it is very likely that none of us is getting enough calcium."

More than three times as much lime is being put on the land annually than prior to the start of the Agricultural Conservation Program in 1936, Davidson said. In the case of phosphate the yearly increase is approximately 12-fold.

"And yet," he declared, "even today our estimated need for lime is more than twice what we're getting on the land. In the case of phosphate, estimates show a need for eight times as much!"

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

Commodity Credit Corporation currently is offering Sudan grass seed to ware-housemen who have it in store at 7 1/2 cents per pound for the best quality. CCC stocks total about 8,000,000 pounds.

(MORE)

LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS
CET FUND PROTECTION - Livestock producers from now on can have additional protection
of their sales proceeds under an arrangement worked out by the U. S. Department of
Agriculture and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, according to Hoy Connelley
PMA Range and Livestock Specialist. "The plan," Connelley says, "will be similar to
the insurance protection provided on personal bank accounts. When a commission firm
deposits in separate 'custodial' bank accounts shippers' funds representing proceeds
from sales, such funds will be insured up to \$5,000 for each shipper having an interest in the account. So the shippers' sales proceeds on deposit are protected
even though the bank fails before the commission firm's check in payment of the net
proceeds is cashed by a shipper. This protection," Connelley added, is in addition
to that afforded livestock shippers by proceeds bonds of about \$28 million now on
file with the Department to assure performance of financial obligations incurred by
registered commission firms."

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A BILLION BUSHELS
OF WINTER WHEAT - "New Mexico is not the only state that has a record wheat crop in sight," Gray Barton, PMA Wheat Specialist, said today. "Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Nebraska and Colorado are also being smiled upon by Mother Nature these days and will make a huge contribution to an estimated record-shattering billion and 25,789,000 bushels production - - - 17 percent more than the previous record crop of 874 million bushels produced last year. New Mexico's production," Barton said, "is expected to reach between 5 and 6 million bushels this year. Kansas alone is expected to contribute at least 263 million bushels to the record production compared with its previous high crop of 252 million bushels in 1931."

The 54,294,000 acres of winter wheat remaining for harvest tops last year's acreage by 12 percent, the 10-year average by a third and is the largest acreage since 1919. The prospective yield of 18.9 bushels would be the third highest of record, and compares with 18 bushels last year. Acreage abandonment is estimated at 4.6 percent, only about one-third of average.

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SOIL MOISTURE MEASURES AID
WHEAT GROWERS IN GREAT PLAINS - Farmers of the Great Plains, where water content of
the soil is the principal limiting factor in wheat growth, can now predict with fair
certainty at seeding time whether their crop will succeed or fail. A long-time program of soil moisture investigations, conducted by the Division of Dry Iand Agriculture and cooperating State agricultural experiment stations, makes these predictions
possible. The studies show that the soil zone occupied by the crop roots is generally dry except as moisture penetrates from the surface downward. Precipitation
during the growing season is often inadequate for crop production, so that quantity
of water in the soil at seeding time has a profound influence on the surety of crop
production and on the yield of the crop.

Comparison of soil - moisture supplies at seeding time with yields of winter wheat over periods up to 30 years in the central Great Plains show that seeding in a dry soil resulted in failure approximately 7 seasons out of 10. Yields of as much as 20 bushels per acre were extremely rare under these conditions. When the soil was moist to a depth of 3 feet or more, however, chances of failure dropped to 10 percent and yields of 20 bushels or more were obtained in two-thirds of the years. Similar results were obtained with spring wheat in the northern Great Plains. In the southern Great Plains, the supply of moisture in the soil at seeding was found to exert a strong influence on the size of the grain sorghum crop produced.

The depth to which soil is wet can be measured readily by digging a hole with an auger or a post-hole digger. Knowledge of soil-moisture conditions — and consequently of the season's crop prospects — has had a pronounced effect on agricultural practices. It has helped farmers decide whether to plant a grain crop, fallow the land or plant some crop less exacting in its water requirement.

The Agricultural Extension Service reported that in one year (1939) more than 17,000 farmers in 46 western Kansas counties used the soil-moisture measure to decide whether or not to plant winter wheat. Knowledge that unnecessary losses of water from the soil in advance of seeding reduce yields has been an important factor in improving cultural practices, such as early tillage and the maintenance of a weed-free surface in a favorable condition for water penetration. The investigations, therefore, serve as a guide to good farm practice when moisture is ample as well as a warning of crop failure when moisture is lacking.

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SUPPORT PROGRAM

FOR 147 DRY BEANS - Prices of the 1947 dry edible bean crop will be supported by means of (1) price-supporting agreements with growers, (2) loans to growers on warehouse and farm stored beans and (3) price-supporting agreements with dealers in areas where necessary. According to C. V. Hemphill, State Chairman of the Production and Marketing Administration Committee, the support price will be based on 90 percent of parity, as of August 15. On April 15, 1947, 90 percent of parity was \$6.98 per 100 pounds; on August 15, 1946 it was \$6.19.

Hemphill said that according to latest reports farmers in the nation have indicated their intentions of planting 1,889,000 acres to dry edible beans this year. This would be about 11 percent greater than last year's acreage and with average yields would produce 16.3 million bags of 100 pounds each of uncleaned beans, he explained. The 1946 production was 15.8 million bags.

1946 SPUD SURPLUS

JUST ABOUT HISTORY - Most of the record 90-million-bushel surplus of last year's potato crop has been disposed of outside the usual market outlets, the Department of Agriculture reports.

Shipments this winter and spring to foreign countries for relief feeding and seed use may total 10 million bushels. Other potatoes purchased by the Government — in millions of bushels — have been diverted about as follows: Distillation, 33; livestock feed, 10; starch, glucose, and flour, 9; and public welfare, such as State and charitable institutions and the School Lunch Program, 3.

According to planting intentions, the 1947 potato crop at average yields would be one-fourth smaller than that of 1946.

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Carry-over of all cotton in the United States next August 1 is expected to be about 3 million bales — 60 percent less than last year and the lowest since the 1929 carry-over of slightly over  $2\frac{1}{4}$  million bales.

 RANGE CONSERVATION

<u>PRACTICES STUDIED</u> - Grazing studies being conducted on 26 native range pastures with the help of 500 steers seek to determine how to obtain maximum livestock production in the area while maintaining or improving range pastures.

Part of the answer is moderate grazing, judging from the tests. For, while over-grazing for a short period brings larger returns in pounds of beef, the returns are not sufficient to offset harmful effects on the grazing capacity of the land. And, in the long run, this would mean less beef. This is particularly noticeable when contrasted with pastures where grazing has been deferred during the growing season.

Deferred grazing of range pasture during the entire growing season has been found especially beneficial to vegetation. When allowed to develop the maximum of surface growth and mature seed, the plants produce a deeper and more extensive root system, become generally more vigorous, and are more effective in preventing wind erosion.

Summer deferment permits natural reseeding on depleted ranges. The more palatable types of grasses then have a chance to develop and crowd out the less palatable ones. And the excess forage produced on a deferred pasture provides an excellent reserve of winter feed.

pastures reseeded with native grasses have been grazed to determine the relative grazing value, beef-producing quality, and carrying capacity of native and "introduced" grasses in comparison with moderately grazed range. Every reseeded pasture supported more cattle, produced more gain per acre, and had more unused forage at the end of the season than did the native range pastures.

On good pastures, properly stocked, higher gains per head and more beef per acre have been produced from the continuously grazed pastures than where cattle have been rotated from one pasture to another during the summer.

To control sagebrush, a strong competitor for the moisture needed by grass, the brush was mowed 2 years in succession and grazed during the summer. June mowings are more effective than during any other time of year. Results showed that each steer on mowed pasture gained an average of 48.5 pounds per head more than steers on unmowed pastures. There was also a 60 percent increase in carrying capacity.

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## FARM NEWS SHORTS

Egg prices in the Midwest will be supported during June by the Government at an average to producers of 35 cents a dozen for shell eggs - the same as for May. Purchases of dried and frozen eggs will be made only from sellers who certify that they have paid producers the support price.

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April exports of more than 58 million bushels brought total U.S. exports of grain and grain products during the 10 months since July 1, 1946, to 426,583,000 bushels. Around 315,093,000 bushels of the exports were wheat and flour equivalent.

Prices received by farmors for eggs in mid-April averaged 40.8 cents per dozen, the highest price for the month in 38 years of record. This compares with 31.3 cents a year ago and the 10-year average of 22.2 cents. Egg prices increased from March to April instead of following the usual season decline.

Chicken prices averaged 27.7 cents per pound liveweight on April 15, the highest for the month since 1920. This compares with 24.3 cents a year ago and the average of 18.4 cents. Turkey prices averaged 30 cents compared with 30.1 a year ago and an average of 20.7.

The mid-April cost of feed for the U.S. farm poultry ration was \$3.92 per 100 pounds, the highest for the month in 24 years of record, compared with \$3.11 a year ago and the average of \$2.13.

The Department of Agriculture expects prices of farm products to remain relatively high at least until prospects for 1947 crops begin to be an important influence. The report points out, however, that prices could decline sharply if there should be a recession in consumer incomes or general business activity.

USDA gives as the reasons for the demand for farm products being strong and prices relatively high: high industrial activity, virtually full employment, gradually rising consumer incomes, and very large current and prospective foreign needs.



New Mexico

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in nearly every Nation on the continent.



WORID HUNGER DESPITE
HUGE GRAIN SHIPMENTS - Despite shipment of unprecedented quantities of grains from
this country to needy countries abroad, hunger and starvation face the people of
many lands. A severe winter coupled with the continuing disrupted condition of the
agriculture will result in smaller daily food rations for the coming 2 or 3 months

The U. S. export program has been greatly stepped up. The 400 million export goal established for the marketing year was passed in April. The United States will probably ship as much as 525 million bushels of grain and grain products by July 1.

Following statements summarized from recent newspaper stories reveal that due largely to weather the food crisis continues:

- England Twenty percent short of wheat goal because of a severe winter and early spring floods. Livestock losses extremely heavy.
- France large part of the winter wheat wiped out by one of the most severe winters in over 50 years.
- Rumania Drought wiped out last year's corn crop and brought famine to

  Moldavia and to some other areas of the country.
- Austria Severe food crisis last summer and early fall, average ration was well below 1,550 calories a day.
- Italy Even last fall food supplies for non-farm population less than 2,000 calories a day.
- British and American Zones of Germany Rations for the ordinary population

  200 to 300 calories short of the standard 1,550 daily schedule.

  (Cont'd. page 2)

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Poland, Hungary and Portugal — Ration below 2,000 calories a day.

Greece, Yugoslavia, and Bulgaria — Average daily calorie intake ranges between 2,100 to 2,400.

Switzerland, Belgium and the Netherlands — Diets have shrunken slightly.

Czechoslavakia, Norway, Sweden and Finland — Rations are about 2,600 calories a day.

Asia — Seriously shortened supply of rice predicted for 16 countries in the next six months.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

FOOT-MOUTH CONTROL UNDERWAY IN MEXICO - About 18,000 animals have been slaughtered and buried in the campaign to stamp out the foot-and-mouth disease in Mexico. Slightly more than half of these were cattle, and the rest were sheep, swine, and goats. In addition, about 75,000 apparently healthy animals have been sent to slaughter in the main quarantine zone in southeastern Mexico, in order to reduce the numbers of susceptible livestock in that area. Officials expect that more than 1,000 animals will be slaughtered daily when the control program reaches full swing.

About 12,000 oxen — used by Mexican farmers for draft purposes — were included among the animals slaughtered. These are being replaced by mules, which are not susceptible to foot—and—mouth disease. Estimates are that 50,000 more mules will be needed; 5,000 have already been obtained from northern Mexican states. Tractors will be used as replacements where conditions justify.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

TEXAS VETCH UP - Hairy vetch production, a new and promising farm industry in 16 central Texas counties, jumped from near zero in 1942 to an estimated 200,000 acres in 1947.

More than half the current acreage may be harvested for seed going a long way toward making up the deficit which resulted from several years of shrinking vetch seed production in Oregon, hitherto the chief source of supply. Oregon hairy wetch seed production reached a peak of 32 million pounds in 1942 and since then has dropped to a production of only 9 million pounds in 1946.

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ACRICULTURAL CLASS

CHOOSES ACP PROJECT - It's always a good story when someone thinks up a new way to

interest more people, young or old, in the conservation program.

Early this year a Vocational Agriculture class at Swainsboro, Georgia, undertook a pasture development project after the instructor talked over the program with Emanuel County agricultural conservation program committeemen. They got written permission from their fathers to use a portion of each farm's soil-building allowance. Then they came to the ACP office in a body to get their purchase orders for seed. Projects varied from one to 10 acres for each boy, and averaged about 6 acres of permanent pasture per farm.

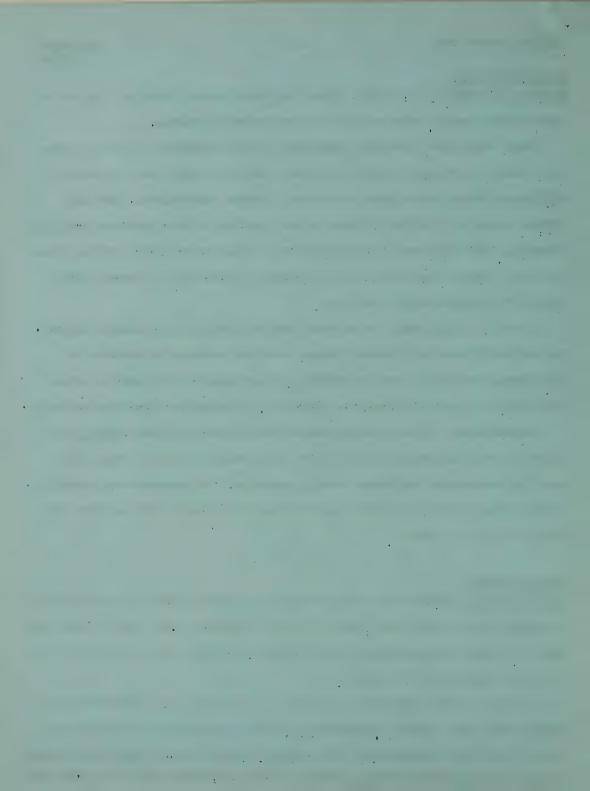
A total of 5,400 pounds of lespedeza seed was issued on the purchase orders. The seed was planted with Bermuda grass, a complete fertilizer at the rate of 2,000 pounds per acre was used at seeding, and arrangements were made for potash to be applied as soon as it could be obtained. The instructor supervised the work.

Emanuel County office records revealed that on these 23 farms, only six had reported a soil conservation practice for payment during the past 5 years; only three had ever secured assistance through grant-of-aid or purchase-order programs. Now the fathers of these boys have indicated they are going to find out what this ACP business is all about.

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HOUSEWIVES URGED
TO BUY SUGAR NOW - Housewives - and industries - are being urged to buy sugar early
so supplies can be moved while transportation is available. This doesn't mean more
sugar, the Sugar Rationing Administration says, but it does mean an advance in the
dates when purchases may be made.

Receipts of sugar from Cuba are at their seasonal peak, and distributors temporarily have large stocks. Furthermore, box cars available now will shortly be needed to move the billion-bushel wheat crop. A second 10-pound stamp for consumers (No. 12) will be validated June 1 instead of July 1, expiring October 31. This also includes any sugar used for canning. (MORE)



## FARM NEWS SHORTS

USDA researchers have developed casings from fruit and vegetable wastes for protecting sausage and other food products.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

The Associated Press reports that high costs of production have reduced returns for milk, butterfat, eggs and poultry below wartime returns. Hogs, beef cattle and lambs are the only products bringing more than in the war years.

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"What we eat, what we wear, what we live in came from the bounty of the land.

Each time a pound of produce is harvested something is gone from the soil. Each

time it rains and dirt washes into streams, each time the wind blows the soil off

our acres, something is gone that only conservation practices can replace. The

productivity of the soil concerns us all — in the price of food and clothing we

buy, in the quality of food we cat." Daily News, Camden, Arkansas, April 15, 1947.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION

5/30/47 No. 244

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HOUSE SIASHES

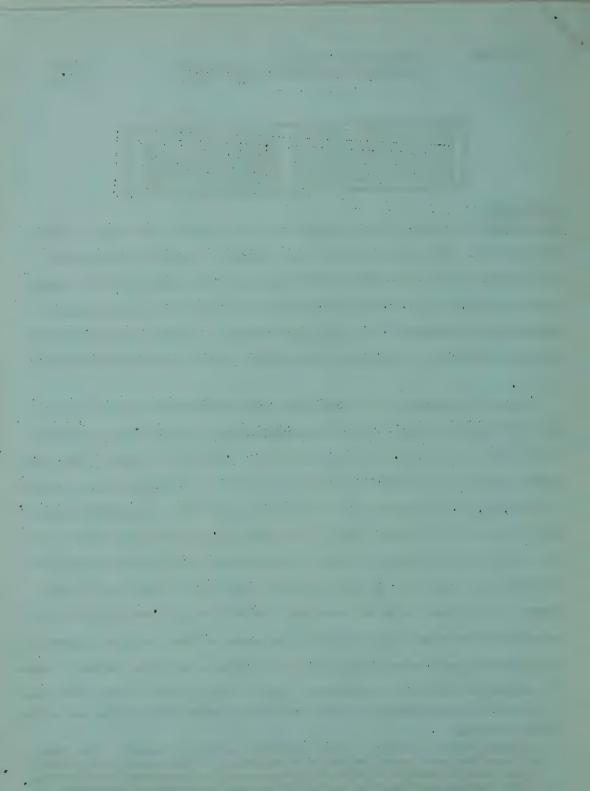
FARM PROGRAM - "The Agricultural Appropriation Bill passed by the House of Representatives drastically curtails conservation payments to farmers and ranchers and practically wipes out other features of the national farm program which was started 11 years ago," says C. V. Hemphill, Chairman of the State Production and Marketing Administration Committee. "Unless funds are restored by Senate action, payments for practices carried out in 1947 will be less than 50 percent of the payments made in 1946.

"Farmers and ranchers in New Mexico have already indicated that they expect to carry out 4 million dollars worth of conservation work in 1947. Much of this work has already been begun. Some has been completed. According to previous plans, Government payments to New Mexico farmers and ranchers for this work would have amounted to \$2,621,000. But according to the bill passed by the House of Representatives, less than 50 percent of this amount will be forthcoming. Huge slashes have not only been taken in conservation payments but also in appropriations for the School Lunch Program which was reduced from 75 million dollars to 45 million dollars and Crop Insurance which has been completely wiped out," Hemphill said. "So-called Section 32 appropriations which have always been the sole source of funds for price supports on most perishables were reduced from 148 million dollars to 40 million dollars." Hemphill pointed out that if the appropriation bill is finally enacted in the form passed by the House of Representatives it will mean that no agricultural program can be formulated for 1948.

He added that as a result of this legislative action, 90 percent of the State FNA employees have been issued notices of dismissal and it is expected that county & offices will be required to reduce their personnel by approximately 50 percent.

Many of the services performed by county offices have been ordered discontinued.

(MORE)



FINAL DATE FOR FILING 1946 ACP  APPLICATIONS ANNOUNCED - June 30 marks the final day for filing applications for
payment under the 1946 Agricultural Conservation Program, Mr.
Chairman ofCounty Committee announced today. County farmers and ranchers
who carried out soil and water conservation practices under the 1946 program and
who have not filed claims for payment should contact county ACA offices immediately
so that their applications can be prepared and submitted for payment before the
deadline date.
Mradded that thus far number of cooperators in
County have filed applications to date, and producers have already
received their payments.
He said that total payments to cooperating farmers and ranchers in the county
are expected to be \$ for participation in the 1946 ACP.
POTATO GROWERS OFFERED HELP IN MARKETING 1947 CROP - Petato producers who have not exceeded their farm
goals or who have planted less than 3 acres are eligible for protection offered by
Government price supports on their 1947 crop, says Chairman of
County Agricultural Conservation Association Committee. But before a certificate
of eligibility to participate in price support operations can be issued, the
potato acreage on a farm must be measured to see if the grower has stayed within
the alloted acreage said that measurements are now being made on
those farms that have assigned goals; however, the small grower who did not have
a farm goal and planted below 3 acres should contact the county ACA committee
relative to certificates as quickly as possible, since acreage determinations must
be made and the committee has no way of knowing names of farmers planting small
potato acreages. Mr added that some of the potatoes which the Government
will obtain through the direct purchase program may go into commercial channels, and growers may find it difficult to sell their potatoes at a fair price unless they have the protection of Government price supports.

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## FARMERS JOIN HANDS

IN CONSERVATION WORK - Community projects under the Agricultural Conservation Program are enabling New Mexico farmers to get together to plan improvements that will give them more efficient use of water in irrigated areas. Main practices carried out under "pooling agreements" were construction of irrigation ditches, small irrigation and "overnight" reservoirs, construction and installation of concrete and metal pipes.

One of the biggest problems of southwestern irrigation farmers is to decrease water losses and increase the amount of water for their crops. As one farmer pointed out, we turn in a good stream of water at the head of the ditch and by the time it gets down to our farms there is not enough to water a cow.

Pooling agreements are offered under the Agricultural Conservation Program because there are many conservation problems that cannot be met on an individual farm basis. Operators of more than 1,000 farms and ranches participated in New Mexico projects which benefited more than 20,000 acres in 1946. Agreements were first offered to New Mexico farmers and ranchers in 1944 and that year there were 19 agreements in the state. In 1945, the number went up to 25. Then in 1946 it jumped up to 60.

New Mexico farmers and ranchers who took part in these agreements to help conserve water put up a portion of the money required to complete these projects to supplement the amount which was made available under the Agricultural Conservation Program.

MULES WANTED - The U. S. Department of Agriculture has started a program under which mules will be purchased for the Mexican government. The purchases are being undertaken as a service to the Government of Mexico to replace work oxen which are being destroyed as part of the foot-and-mouth disease cradication campaign in Mexico. The Livestock Branch of the Production and Marketing Administration will carry out the purchase operations of the program for the account of the Mexican government. While final arrangements have not been made as to the number of animals to be purchased, the Initial plans indicate 20,000 or more mules will be bought under arrangements similar to those used for buying draft animals for UNRRA in 1946.

WORID COTTON CROP

DROPS FOR 1946-47 - "The second smallest crop in 23 years is estimated for world

cotton production in 1946-47", C. V. Hemphill, Chairman of the State Production and

Marketing Administration Committee, said today. "Production is now expected to

total 21.5 million bales and this compares with 20,650,000 bales in the preceding

year and the pre-war average of 31 million.

"World acreage planted to cotton," he says, "increased about 4 percent over a year earlier but unfavorable weather conditions resulted in lower yields in some major producing countries. Greatest percentage increases in acreage were reported in Egypt, Brazil and the Soviet Union."

Hemphill said, "New Mexico cotton farmers experienced one of their greatest cotton production years in 1946 with acreages and yields per acre ranging far above normal." He pointed out that other states in the central and eastern parts of the Cotton Belt were less fortumte however, their crop being considerably damaged by excessive rain and heavy boll weevil infestation. Drought, followed by heavy rainfall, in Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas helped to reduce the U.S. cotton crop to the smallest since 1921. The 1946 crop of 8,640,000 bales was 375,000 less than in 1945.

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NEW FOOD RECORD

POSSIBLE IN 1947 - U. S. farmers may produce even more food this year than in any

of the last 3 years, says the Department of Agriculture. Present outlook is for a

food production total which will be 41 percent higher than in the 1935-39 prewar

period.

production of individual commodities, however, will differ from 1946. Smaller output is predicted for poultry products, fresh and processed vegetables, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes; sales of milk and cream will also be smaller. More production is expected for vegetable oils, lard, butter, evaporated milk, wheat, rye, sugar and dry peas. Production of other major food commodities will probably be about the same.

Foreign trade outlook is for more imports of sugar, more exports of grain, and less exports of meats, lard, eggs and dairy products.

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FOOD IS BASIC IN
WORLD RELATIONS - It's a short distance from food and fuel either to peace or to
anarchy declared Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson before the Delta council at
Cleveland, Mississippi, recently.

The war has produced a staggering disparity between United States production and production in the rest of the world, he said. This country has been spared physical destruction and has been favored with unusually bountiful crops, he pointed out. We are carrying out an extensive program of relief and reconstruction, he told the group. "The contribution of the United States is best measured not in terms of money but in terms...of food, clothing, coal, steel, machinery...that the world needs...", he continued.

"These measures of relief and reconstruction have been only in part suggested by humanitarianism," Acheson said. There can be no political or economic stability in the world and no lasting peace or prosperity until the various countries of the world get on their feet, he stated.

Acheson compared our estimated 1947 exports of \$16 billions - which represent one month's output for each man and woman in the United States and one month's output from every farm, factory and mine. This is 4 times the prewar average annual exports. We are importing about half as much as we export, he said. The difference is being financed by loans and grants-in-aid by the United States government and by the Export-Import bank, the International Bank, the International fund and other means. We must take as large a volume of imports as possible to bridge the financial gap between what the world needs and what it can pay for, Acheson continued.

Reaching the goal would result in a fall crop of nearly 35 million pigs, compared with the 1946 fall crop of about 30.6 million head. This year's spring crop is expected to be about 53 million. So total pig production recommended for 1947 is nearly 5 million more pigs above the 1946 level. A strong consumer demand is indicated for next spring and summer when 1947 fall pigs will be marketed. If corn yields are at least average, feed supplies are expected to be ample.

State goals will be reviewed by State USDA Councils before final goals are

submitted to farmers.

FARMERS ASKED TO

RAISE MORE PIGS - Hog producers have been asked to boost production of pigs this fall
to provide adequate meat supplies next year. Nationally, the Department of Agriculture is recommending that farmers keep 15 percent more sows than they kept to produce
the 1946 fall crop now coming to market. The requested increase for the West is
about 18 percent. The Corn Belt is asked to farrow 16 percent more sows.

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